



November 28, 2005

To all ACEC Communities & Interested Parties,

The summer and fall of 2005 have brought about notable personnel changes at the Department of Conservation and Recreation's (DCR) Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC) Program. As you know, DCR administers the ACEC Program on behalf of the Secretary of Environmental Affairs.

I am pleased to announce that Elizabeth Sorenson is the new Director of the ACEC Program. After 12 ½ years as the program's Coastal Coordinator and 10 months as the Interim Director, she will now lead the program in preserving, restoring, and enhancing resources in the state's 28 ACECs, as well as direct the review of new ACEC nominations.

I am also happy to welcome the ACEC Program's new Coastal Coordinator, Lisa Berry Engler. Lisa comes to us directly from her graduate degree in environmental management at Duke University and with 3 years prior experience working in the Massachusetts environmental permitting and consulting field as an environmental planner.

Unfortunately, the program is also saying goodbye to Katie Lund, DCR's and Coastal Zone Management's (CZM) Coastal ACEC Stewardship Coordinator, who provided technical assistance to the 14 coastal ACECs for 7 years, beginning with a 2-year NOAA (federally funded) Coastal Fellowship project in the Parker River/Essex Bay ACEC. She also administered the first ACEC grant program for coastal communities over the past 4 years, awarding a total of \$85,000 for planning, outreach, and resource monitoring projects in ACECs. She will be missed and we wish her well as her family travels to California. She tells us she will be back in two years!

Please check the ACEC Program's website for more updates and announcements - <http://www.mass.gov/dcr/stewardship/acec> . Or for further information about the ACEC Program please contact Liz Sorenson at 617-626-1394 or [elizabeth.sorenson@state.ma.us](mailto:elizabeth.sorenson@state.ma.us). Thank you for your continued cooperation and participation in our joint efforts to preserve and provide stewardship for these special areas.

Sincerely,

Stephen H. Burrington  
Commissioner

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